

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 17517 041826Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----052765 041826Z /46

R 032300Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5228
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 17517

EXDIS

BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PINT CSCE SHUM UR
SUBJECT: SHCHARANSKIY TRAIL

1. DURING A READOUT OF HIS RECENT LENGTHY MEETINGS
HERE WITH TOP US-WATHER YURIY ARBATOV (HEAD OF
USA/CANADA INSITTUTE, CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE CANDIDATE
MEMBER), MIDDLEBURY PRESIDENT OLIN ROBINSON TOLD ABM
THAT WHEN QUERIED ARBATOV
--OPINED THAT SHCHARANSKIY WOULD SOON BE TRIED--
PERPHAS LATE DECEMBER OR EARLY JANUARY.
--"IN EFFECT" CONFIRMED THAT THE TRIAL HAD THUS FAR
BEEN POSTPONED FOR POLITICAL REASONS.

2. ROBINSON SAID HE TOLD ARBATOV THAT, GIVEN THE
LIKELY IMPACT OF A TRAIL ONUS PUBLIC OPINION, THE
SOVIETS MUSTTAKE ANOTHER HARD POLITICAL
DECISION--RATHER THAN A LEGALISTIC ONE--
FROM A PERSPECTIVE OF HOW A TRVUL WOULD AFFECT
US-SOVIET RELATIONS IN GENERAL. ARBATOV
COUNTERED THAT REPEATED REFERENCES TO SHCHARANSKIY
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ON VOA, WHICH WOVIETS FOUND HIGHLY IRRITATING,
REFLECTED A USG POLITICAL DECISION.

3. IN REPLY ROBISON REFERRED TO ARBATOV'S
DEFENSIVE STATEMENTS EARLIER THIS YEAR THAT
SOVIET MEDIA CRITICISM OF PRESIDENT CARTER DID
NOT REFLECT A SENIOR POLITICAL DECISION: RATHER

IT WAS THE RESULT OF INDIVIDUAL SOVIET COMMENTATION
STRAYING AFIELD. SIMILARLY, VENTRUED ROBISON,
CURRENT VOA COVERAGE OF SHCHARANSKIY IS PROBABLY
THE PRODUCT OF ROUTINE DECISIONS BY STAFFERS RATHER
THAN TOP LEVEL POLICY MAKERS.
TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL TRIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions:
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Subject: SHCHARANSKIY TRAIL
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, UR, CSCE, (SHCHARANSKIY)
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vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8ea8d70c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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